

Fairfax County Successful Children and Youth Policy Team

February 5, 2025
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Virtual

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Legislative Discussion (Federal)
3. Strategic Initiative Updates
 - My Brother's Keeper Fairfax
 - Community Schools
 - Opportunity Youth/Workforce Readiness
 - Behavioral Health
4. Strategic Initiative Focus: Early Childhood/School Readiness
5. Public Comment
6. Administrative Items & SCYPT Members Updates
7. Adjourn

Future Meeting Dates

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
12000 Government Center Parkway
Conference Room 11

- April 2, 2025
- June 4, 2025

SCYPT KEY ISSUE UPDATE

SCYPT Meeting Date	February 5, 2025
Key Issue	My Brothers Keeper (MBK) Fairfax
System-Level Updates and Progress	<p>In November, the MBK Fairfax Steering Committee received training by MBK Alliance staff on the three main categories of the MBK Alliance Community Work—Systems Approach, Sustained Infrastructure, and Collaborative Action. These categories focus on advancing systems change by bringing together diverse community stakeholders to collaboratively identify and address systemic barriers that impact boys and young men of color across areas such as education, employment, health and justice, including using a data-driven approach to implement policy changes and reforms at the local level.</p>
Update towards initiative objectives this year.	<p>The MBK Certification Workbook has been completed and submitted by the MBK Fairfax backbone staff. We recently have been notified by our MBK Coach that we are now a Certified Community. We are awaiting official documentation from MBK. Our MBK Coach will be supporting us in developing SMART goals aligned with our milestone with a target date of the end of April.</p> <p>The MBK Fairfax backbone staff continue to participate in the monthly MBK Alliance Community of Practice meetings with an assigned MBK Alliance Coach to learn how other jurisdictions are implementing the MBK Alliance Model Communities.</p> <p>In the next quarter, MBK Fairfax will focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize its charter with the steering committee incorporating youth and family voices. • Promote the MBK Fairfax Strategy Inventory on Engage Fairfax related to the MBK Milestones. • Sign the MBK Alliance Community Agreement to formalize the partnership with Fairfax County. • Begin the strategic planning process for the development of the MBK Alliance Action Plan.
Equity Impact	<p>The MBK Fairfax Steering Committee brings together diverse stakeholders to create a comprehensive network of support for boys and young men of color to reach their full potential regardless of their background or circumstances.</p>

SCYPT KEY ISSUE UPDATE

SCYPT Meeting Date	Wednesday, February 5, 2025
Key Issue	Community Schools Initiative – approved recommendations
System-Level Updates and Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved recommendations by FCPS School Board in October 2023 and Board of Supervisors in January 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Established Community Schools Model / CSFC Implementation Framework outlining defined roles and responsibilities for each organization (FCPS, County, Lead CBO) that facilitates the Community Schools Initiative ○ Program Support Staff employed by FCPS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Central Office Coordinator - enhanced coordination and management of community schools ▪ School Site Specialist - Shared common processes and outcomes, aligned with the FCPS strategic plan, supporting collaboration with supervisors and colleagues ○ Standardized processes for assessment, evaluation, and reporting for each school site ○ Communications enhanced to establish expectations and standards for internal and external communications ○ Continued role for a Lead Community Based Organization for each community school site to center family voice and enhance outreach efforts. ○ Site Prioritization Process to aid Community School Site Selection using clearly defined metrics from available data sources.
A look forward to what we are trying to accomplish this next year / where are we going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of a funding source to support the hiring of Program Support Staff including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central Office Coordinator ○ School Site Specialist • Reinstatement of the Community Schools Advisory Committee to provide leadership to guide initiative level policy
How this work contributes to equity	<p>Community Schools provide support for high-needs students and families aligned with specific programmatic outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved School Attendance • Improved Student Behaviors • Improved Academic Performance • Student Connectedness to School and Community • Family Support and Engagement

SCYPT KEY ISSUE UPDATE

SCYPT Meeting Date	February 5, 2025
Key Issue	Fairfax County Opportunity Youth Network/Workforce Readiness
System-Level Updates and Progress	The Fairfax County Opportunity Youth Network, referred to as the Network, is guided by an upward mobility framework that is directly related to systems change. Improving outcomes for opportunity youth requires addressing underlying systemic barriers, e.g., changing the structures and policies, that limit their opportunities to move up the socioeconomic ladder. The Network continues to actively engage its young members to ensure that their values, knowledge, perspectives-and lived experiences impact the work.
Update towards initiative objectives this year.	<p>Since October 2024, the Network’s Core Team has been meeting to substantially refine the charter and plan for its launch event. This launch event will be designed to generate excitement and awareness among the broader community, youth serving organizations, and opportunity youth around its vision, mission, and goals. It is expected to include a keynote speaker and engage participants in dialogue through a World Café to catalyze the formation of the Network’s workgroups.</p> <p>On February 1, NCS will host its second Discover Your Path Expo at the Hybla Valley Community Center for youth 14-24 years old. This expo is designed to inform, engage, and empower young people by providing them with access to information, resources, and opportunities related to their education, career paths, community involvement, and personal development, including interactive exhibits, workshops, and networking with relevant organizations and professionals. For example, one of the workshops will involve teamwork competitions on robotic design of motor racing cars. Another workshop will be a hands-on course on using artificial intelligence in prototype design. This expo will also include an in-depth review of the college financial aid process. Last year, more than 100 youth participated in the expo.</p> <p>The Network’s young members were “co-creators” of the charter which promotes equitable access and outcomes for all youth.</p>
Equity Impact	The Network is advancing systems change with priority on equity by integrating youth with lived experiences in the Network’s planning and decision-making processes. Youth will have the power, autonomy and sense of belonging to help drive these system-level changes that support all youth.

SCYPT KEY ISSUE UPDATE

SCYPT Meeting Date	February 5, 2025
Key Issue	Children/Youth Behavioral Health
System-Level Updates and Progress	
Update towards initiative objectives this year.	<p>The focus in Children/Youth Behavioral Health has been on creating ways to make it easier for children, youth and their caregivers to access services and navigate services. Navigation means to connect children and youth to the behavioral services that meet their needs. Work has also been done in the area of System Level Changes</p> <p>Community Services Board (CSB)</p> <p><u>Access to Services</u></p> <p>The focus of the Community Services Youth and Family Outpatient and Intensive Services continues to be on creating new services to meet the current needs of the population and making it easier for children and youth and their families to access services.</p> <p>The Community Services Board recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to establish a youth detox residential treatment service, a Residential Crisis Stabilization Services and a 23-hour crisis stabilization in community-based sites. This service will be for adolescents (ages 13-17) or for younger children on a case by case basis who need substance detoxification and/or crisis stabilization services. The solicitation period ended on January 17.</p> <p>In the summer of 2024, the CSB launched services for youth at three community-based locations in the following order: Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center (6/21/2024), James Lee Community Center (7/26/24), and Hybla Valley Community Center (8/2/24). YMAT services also launched (6/3/2024). Since October 30, 2024, 72 youth have received services at these sites. Additionally, the CSB continues to collaborate with Fairfax County Public Schools, having placed School-Based Counselors in 11 schools, with 10 of the therapists managing full caseloads of 5 students each.</p> <p>Since October 30, 2024, a total of 1,006 youth have benefited from the CSB's Youth Outpatient services, including the 72 youth served at community-based sites. Twenty-Four additional youth have been served by YMAT. Seven youth have participated in the Outpatient Substance Use Disorder group, and 197 youth have received services through the CSB's Youth Intensive Services.</p>

	<p>Healthy Minds Fairfax (HMF)</p> <p><u>Navigation</u></p> <p>Healthy Minds Fairfax has partnered with HopeLink Behavioral Health and Northern Virginia Family Services to create a care navigation service to help caregivers/family members connect their children and youth to behavioral health services. They will be accepting referrals from caregivers, family members, and community member with permission from the family. Referrals will be accepted by telephone, email or directly from their website. Services will be delivered in the families primary language (interpretation services may be used) and are available to all Fairfax County residents. They are hoping for a soft launch by the end of January 2025.</p> <p>Healthy Minds Fairfax has partnered with FindHelp.org to develop an online resource for children and youth behavioral health services. While the focus is on children and youth behavioral health, there will also be information on how to pay for services and resources for physical health. The goal is for a soft launch by March 2025.</p> <p><u>System Level Changes</u></p> <p>A Healthy Minds Fairfax workgroup has been working on a report that focuses on an assessment of population level data during and after COVID-19. The authors of this report are from the Community Services Board, the Department of Family Services, the Health Department, and the Department of Management and Budget.</p> <p>Two workgroups from the Trauma Informed Community Network (TICN) have recently convened to work on the goal of “Continuing to integrate trauma informed practice into all public and private children serving agencies.” The workgroups will have a final report by the end of April 2025.</p>
<p>Equity Impact</p>	<p>All children/youth behavioral health service providers strive to provide services in the children’s/youth primary language and in locations closest to where they live. Additionally, all communications about services are published in English and Spanish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43% of the Youth Medication Assisted Treatment (YMAT) and Community Based staff are bi-lingual, leveling access to treatment for youth and families experiencing language barriers. • The CSB has partnered with Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) to offer services at three of their community centers. • The CSB has placed clinicians at 11 FCPS locations. Two locations, Bryant Alternative High School and Dogwood Elementary School are Title I Schools.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CSB plans to launch an AFFIRM or LGBTQI Youth Process group in March 2025. AFFIRM YOUTH is an evidenced based practice that focuses on reducing youth depression and anxiety while improving their overall wellbeing. The LGBTQI Youth Process group will maintain the same principles. • 80% of the members of the Healthy Minds Fairfax Youth Advisory Council identify as LGBTIA+. • HMF's Short Term Behavioral Health (STBH) Services are available to all students who attend any of FCPS's middle, high, or secondary schools or one of the 44 Title elementary schools and meet the income criteria. The income criteria for STBH is a family's income can be up to 400% of the poverty level. • HMF continues to focus their recruitment of new service providers for their STBH Services on those who speak languages other than English and who are providing in-person treatment. • HMF has partnered with NCS to allow STBH providers to provide services to STBH clients at a NCS site. • HMF continues to work with FCPS to pilot having a STBH provider at a school.
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SCYPT EARLY CHILDHOOD

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Keisha Dotson, Deputy Director, NCS

Lisa Pilson, Director of Early Childhood Curriculum & Grant
Management, FCPS

OVERVIEW

- Previous Discussion Highlights
- Current Early Childhood System
 - Experiences
 - Virginia's Unified System- Ready Regions
 - Publicly Funded Programs
- County Early Childhood Resources
- Gaps and Access
- Strategic Plan Comprehensive Vision Discussion

PREVIOUS DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Need to understand the full early childhood system
- Supply and demand
- Data review
- Exploration of non-traditional pathways to early childhood workforce
- Barrier reduction – SCYPT locus of control

EARLY CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES



Centers

- Early childhood programs in public or private settings (community, county & FCPS)

Regulated Family Child Care

- County permitted or state licensed family child care educators

In-home Options

- Trusted Family member/neighbor who provides experiences

VIRGINIA'S UNIFIED SYSTEM

- Regional early childhood systems building and coordination of early childhood care and education services to prepare children and families for success.
- **Virginia Quality Birth to Five (VQB5) and RecognizeB5**

Interactions	Curriculum
Measure teacher-child interactions and instruction with developmentally appropriate practices using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)	Measure the use of approved curricula that are aligned with the Virginia Early Learning & Development Standards Birth-Five
Research shows that stimulating and supportive interactions between teachers and children and effective use of quality curricula promote children's holistic learning and development, resulting in improved school readiness.	



PUBLICLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

Child Care Subsidy

- Fairfax County, City of Fairfax and Falls Church with State funding
- Additional local funds (\$16.3M) to provide subsidy in Fairfax County

Mixed Delivery

- State funding
- Rates vary by region, number of slots and by age group

Virginia Preschool Initiative

- VPI funding is based on per child amount. \$5,350 per child from state and 50% local match.
- Community based programs receive a community add-on of \$2,500 per child

Head Start/Early Head Start

- Federal funding with a local match
- Total of over 650 federal slots in FCPS, Family child care and Center based

COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCES

Child Care Assistance and Referral



- Provides assistance finding and paying for child care.
- Provide child care consumer education

Community Education and Provider Services



- Issues child care permit for family child care.
- Provides technical assistance and professional development to educators

School Readiness



Ensures all publicly funded early childhood programs in the Ready Region Capital Area participate in Virginia Quality Birth to Five (VQB5) as required by Virginia law

Head Start



- A national child development program that prepares children for success in school.
- Provided to eligible families at no cost

Access and Family Partnerships



Works to strengthen family engagement and access to quality early childhood programs. Supports the work of regional family council and provides oversight of mixed Delivery and Virginia Preschool Initiative

GAPS AND ACCESS



71,511

Number of Children under age 5 in
Fairfax County

25,033 children under age 5 with families
living under 350% of FPL



6,529

Number of children served in FY24 in
Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR)



over **2,700**

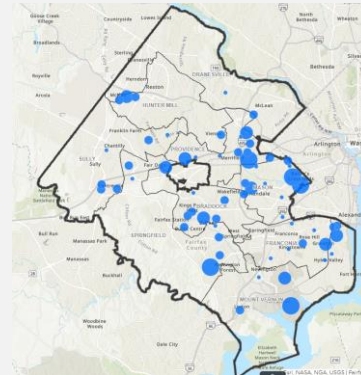
Educators received professional learning
opportunities through Institute for Early
Learning in FY24



over **1,600**

Early Childhood Programs in
Fairfax County*

Mapping Early Childhood Programs Areas of Need



Over 4,700

Observations were completed for VQB5 in
Capital Area in FY24 (Fall and Spring)

Nearly 800 early childhood programs
participated in Capital Area in FY24

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPREHENSIVE VISION OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM



Visual from Early Childhood Systems (ECS)
Collective Impact Project: Voices from the Field

SCYPT MEMBER BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Poll:

- Which of these systems do you think you could champion as a SCYPT member. (can choose more than one).

Key Themes

- Exploration of non-traditional pathways to early childhood workforce opportunities
- Access and Affordability barrier reduction – SCYPT

I. How do you see yourself contributing to the early childhood system?

II. Which stakeholders within the system do you see as critical partners in advancing these efforts?